

Gc
929.2
L435Ld

GEN

ALLEN COUNTY PUBLIC LIBRARY



3 1833 02297 7414

Gc 929.2 L435Ld

Lawrence, D. W.

The Lawrence family in
England and America

✓

THE LAWRENCE FAMILY

in

ENGLAND AND AMERICA.

A Sketch.

Data gathered from various sources and compiled by

D. W. LAWRENCE.

Allen County Public Library
900 Webster Street
PO Box 2270
Fort Wayne, IN 46801-2270

INTRODUCTION.

Is there any real reason why people should be interested in knowing who their ancestors were? Some people immediately say, "no," while others enthusiastically say, "Yes." Some say they do not care to search around very much in the family tree, for fear they may find some monkeys in the branches. That is altogether possible in any family.

Perhaps the least that can be said of looking up a Family Pedigree is that it is a "harmless amusement." Then, too, it constitutes a perfectly good "hobby."

In starting out to look up the Lawrence Family History, I will admit that at first I was spurred more or less by curiosity. I had heard remarks made to the effect, "We have a family history of which we do not need to be ashamed." Of course, that is true of many families; but when I saw it in print I just kept right on investigating to see what it was all about.

But let me say this; - If so be that we do find ancestors who have accomplished things, who have made names for themselves, and of whom we can say, "Well done;" our investigation will be worse than useless, if we just simply sit back and swell up with pride of ancestry. If they lived courageous and virtuous lives under the circumstances in which they found themselves, it is all the more reason why we should live courageous and virtuous lives under the conditions in which we find ourselves. Whether our ancestors have lived lives that we need not be ashamed to claim them, or whether they have not; it is up to us to live such lives of virtue and honesty and service, in our own little sphere, that those who come after us will not be ashamed of us.

The Philosopher of old said, "A good name is rather to be chosen than great riches." If we have inherited a good name, it is well, it is up to us to keep it, preserve it, and pass it on.

If the Lawrence name has been one of courage and virtue in the past, let it be one of usefulness and service today and in future years.

When I was a boy, I used to occasionally hear relatives speak of matters in connection with the Lawrence family history, which gave me the impression that it must be quite interesting. Then one day at the home of an Uncle, I came across a book or pamphlet regarding the Lawrence Family History, running back into the years before any of the family came to America; and, in fact, long before America was discovered. I was very much interested in the contents of the book; and wanted very much to keep this myself, but did not even suggest this to Uncle. Instead, I copied what were to me at that time some of the most interesting points in it. This information I kept through the years, always with the idea that some time I would like to go into the matter further. Several times through the years I did attempt to obtain additional information, but did not seem to have much success, until quite recent years. Then I saw advertised in a rare book catalogue, a copy of what turned out to be the same book already referred to. From various sources I began to realize that the Lawrence Family History had been studied and written about very extensively, there being quite a number of books in which it is featured to a greater or lesser extent. These books are for the most part now quite rare. I learned of them through rare book catalogues, and by references made to some of them in other books. Through rare book dealers, I have finally come into possession of some of them.

It should be stated here that while these books tell of the various branches of the Lawrence Family, some of them do not interest our immediate branch of the family. Special reference will be made to some of those that do, in the proper place, as we proceed.

A careful examination of these books and records reveals that there are a number of conflicting statements, as well as some apparent errors. Some of these are plainly due to carelessness undoubtedly, and trusting to memory without checking up from facts. Some are doubtless the result of quoting information of a more or less legendary nature, handed down from generation to generation. It is the writer's opinion that most of the errors and conflicting statements are chargeable to "the lure of the estate," to which reference will be made later. Each branch of the family, and there are very many branches, had been anxious to show itself the most direct in descent. The writer does not, of course, claim that he can infallibly separate the true from the false; but going over the available data a number of times, as he has, it becomes plain that errors exist. Some of them are quite plain, being contrary to authentic records. In the data here compiled, it has been the aim to use only such data as appeared to be authoritative.

GENERA L.

As already stated, there is a great deal of information, published in one form or another, regarding the Lawrence Family, or Families, in both England and America. There are few families that have received so much attention in print. This is due to two reasons. The first is, that members of the family have been quite prominent in English history; and others have made themselves felt in American history. The second, is the lure of one or more English estates, which, in the past, were believed to be awaiting the proper heirs in America. These estates are variously referred to as, "The Lawrence Estate," "The townley Estate," "the Lawrence-Townley Estate," and so on. The main interest, however, hinged about one, usually referred to as "The Lawrence-Townley Estate."

It is no part of the writer's purpose to discuss the merits or otherwise of the estate, or estates, about which so much has been written. But even in a brief sketch as this one, it will have to receive some reference. It should be stated, however, that for some years back it has seemed to be a dead issue. Forty to sixty years ago there were various organizations, made of descendents of the early Lawrence family. These organizations gathered data, published books and pamphlets, had meetings, and even sent committees to England. To say nothing of spending much money for lawyers, all because of the supposed estate. It now seems reasonable to say, that if such estate, or estates, ever actually existed, the time for realizing anything on same is long past. It is the writer's opinion, based on the investigations of others, that any time or money spent on the matter would be simply wasted. In fact, in past years, as already intimated, thousands of dollars have been wasted on it by various branches of the family, and by imposters as well.

Let it then be understood here, that this sketch is purely for historical and genealogical purposes, regardless of whatever references may be made later to the estate question.

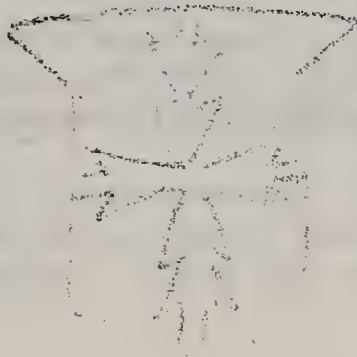
ANCIENT.

The name Lawrence comes down through history from a very early date. It also appears very early in American records.

Authorities seem to agree that the name comes from the Latin, Laurentius. Authorities do not agree as to the meaning of the word. The meaning is usually given as "Laurel Crowned." It is sometimes given as "Flourishing like a green bay tree." For this last use, see first page of the town records of Hingham, Mass. The writer believes the first meaning is the more correct. In connection with the ancient coat-of-arms of the family, a crest was used by some branches of the family (our own branch for instance), represented by two laurel branches forming a chaplet, which would seem to confirm the meaning "Laurel Crowned."

It is impossible to trace the family in the earliest stages in England, prior to the 12th Century A.D. At that time we find Robert Lawrence, an officer in the army of King Richard I (Coeur-de-Lion), engaged in the Third Crusade, attempting to wrest Palestine (The Holy Land) from the Infidels. There he distinguished himself, especially at the Battle of Acre, where he was the first to scale the walls of the city, and place the Crusaders' Banner thereon. For this he was Knighted by King Richard, and was thereafter known as Sir Robert Lawrence. Historical records show that this battle took place on July 12th in the year 1191 A.D. It will be remembered in history, that after a truce was established in Palestine, the Crusaders turned their faces toward their far away homes. Many of them, however, became scattered, and King Richard himself was seized by the Duke of Austria and imprisoned for several years. Upon his release and return to England, and the resumption of his duties as King, he did not forget Sir Robert Lawrence; but conferred upon him Ashton Hall, with its income and rentals. Thereafter he was known as Sir Robert Lawrence of Ashton Hall. Ashton Hall is located about three miles from the City of Lancaster, in Lancashire, England. King Richard also conferred upon the family a Coat-of-Arms, which is described as, -

"Argent, a Cross Reguly, Gules."



The Coat-of-Arms of the Lawrence Family, is always described as,

ARGENT, A CROSS REGULY, GULES.

It is illustrated as shown on the preceding page. I have seen it illustrated in several books; and in fact, have copied it from one of the books.

Argent, indicates that the back-ground, or field as it is called, of the shield, is silver in color.

A Cross Reguly, or Reguled; is in this case a cross represented by two branches of trees crossed, and with regulated edges; that is, as though the smaller branches had been rather carelessly chopped off.

Gules, means the color of the cross is red.

In other words, the colors of the Lawrence coat-of-arms are silver and red; that is, a red regulated cross, on a silver shield; and the shape of the shield to be as shown.

The crest is not shown here; but if shown, would rest just above the arms design. The Crest would be likely to vary with different branches of the family. The Coat-of-Arms, however, for all branches of the Lawrence Family of Lancashire, England, and all descendants, should always be the same. It does not apply to any Lawrence family unless descended from the Lawrences of Lancashire. I have seen the Crest shown as a Chaplet of Laurel; sometimes the head of an antlered deer; and sometimes the tail of a dolphin or chub. The crest is not a part of the coat-of arms. The original Crest of the Lawrence Family of Lancashire was the Laurel Chaplet. This is perfectly proper, as the meaning of the name "Lawrence" is "Laurel Crowned."

The Lawrence Family of Maryland has handed down the above Coat-of-Arms, from generation to generation in the family. For the Crest, they show two Laurel Branches, vertical, forming a chaplet.

John, William and Thomas Lawrence who came to America in 1635, and settled on Long Island, used this coat-of-arms. It may still be seen, appended to their wills and other legal documents in the Serrugate Court Records in New York City and at Albany, N.Y. Lord Henry Lawrence, the President of Cromwell's Council, who was a cousin of John, William and Thomas, used this Coat-of Arms; and it is still to be seen on his tomb at St. Margaret's Chapel, Hertfordshire, England.

ENGLISH PEDIGREE.

The following English Pedigree of the Lawrence Family is given. A large part of this was compiled by H. G. Somerby, Esq., for the Lawrence Family, perhaps fifty years ago. It is claimed to be compiled from "Records of Herald's Visitations, Inquisitions Post Mortem, Deeds, Charters, Wills, Burial Records, and other original sources." The information, in the form of a chart, was gotten up by Mr. Somerby in printed form, and the writer has a copy of it, yellow with age. Some of this pedigree data was published many years ago in England, in "Hoare's Wiltshire Record," and other publications, and the writer has found it quoted in part in other books. These other books have stated they obtained parts of it from "Collier's Dictionary;" "Guillin & Newton's Heraldry;" "Harris's History of Kent, England;" "Brake's History of the Commoners of England;" "Burke's Extinct and Dormant Baronetcies of England;" "Clutterbeck's History of Hertfordshire;" "Wood's Athenae Oxonienses;" "The Gentlemen's Magazine;" "Strypes' Annals;" and "Neil's History of the Puritans."

(1).. Sir Robert Lawrence, already referred to, who distinguished himself at the Battle of Acre in Palestine, in the year 1191; for which he was Knighted, granted Ashton Hall, and a coat-of-arms conferred upon him.

(2).. Sir Robert Lawrence, of Ashton Hall, in Lancashire, son of the first Sir Robert just referred to.

(3).. Sir James Lawrence, of Ashton Hall, son of the second Sir Robert above. Sir James married Matilda, daughter of John Washington.

(4).. Sir John Lawrence, of Ashton Hall, son of Sir James and Matilda; married Margaret Chesford.

(5).. Sir John Lawrence, of Ashton Hall; son of Sir John and Margaret; married Elizabeth Holt.

(6).. Sir Robert Lawrence of Ashton Hall; son of Sir John and Elizabeth; married Margaret Holden. They had four sons; Sir Robert, Thomas, William and Edmund. Sir Robert will be considered in the next item; Thomas will be referred to later; William was killed in the battle of St. Albans in 1455; and Edmund will be referred to later.

(7).. Sir Robert, of Ashton Hall, son of Sir Robert and Margaret; married Amphilbus Longford. They had three sons; Sir James, Robert, and Nicholas of Agercroft.

(8).. Sir James Lawrence of Ashton Hall, eldest son as above of Sir Robert and Amphilbus; was the last of the name of Lawrence to occupy Ashton Hall. He is said to have left no children; but had two brothers as above, - Robert and Nicholas.

(9).. Robert Lawrence, brother of Sir James Lawrence, just referred to, and his wife Margaret, had three sons. The Eldest, Sir Robert, married a daughter of Thomas Stanley. The second, Sir John, commanded a wing of the English army under Lord Surrey, at the battle of Flodden Field. The third, William, married Isabel Molyneaux; and was the father of John Lawrence, Archdeacon of Worcester; and of Robert Lawrence, who married Eleanor Stratford.

(10).. Nicholas Lawrence of Agercroft, the third son of Sir Robert and Amphilbus (see item 7 above), had seven sons; Thomas, Nicholas, Robert, John, William, Henry and Sir Oliver. Just now we are only interested in John.

(11)..John Lawrence, son of Nicholas of Agercroft, removed to Suffolk, and from him are descended the Lawrences of St. James Park, Suffolk.

(12)..Thomas Lawrence, of Rumburg in Suffolk, son of the last named John Lawrence, owned lands in Rumburg, South Elmham, Spitteshall, Wisset, Holton, etc.

(13)..John Lawrence of Rumburg, son of Thomas Lawrence of Rumburg. His wife's name was Margery. He had two sons, Robert and William. Robert will be considered in the next item, and William later.

(14)..Robert Lawrence of Rumburg, son of John and Margery of Rumburg,

(15)..John Lawrence of Rumburg, son of Robert of Rumburg. His wife's name was Elizabeth.

(16)..John Lawrence of Rumburg, son of John and Elizabeth of Rumburg. His wife's name was Agnes.

(17)..John Lawrence of Wisset in Suffolk, son of John and Agnes of Rumburg. His wife's name was Johanna.

(18)..Henry Lawrence of Wisset, son of John and Johanna. His wife's name was Mary. They had two sons, John and Robert. Are said to have had a son Thomas, but this is not authoritative.

(19).. John Lawrence of Wisset. Son of John and Mary. He was twice married; first wife Elizabeth, and second wife Susannah. His John came to New England, and settled first at Watertown, Massachusetts, and then was at Groton, Mass. The date of his coming to America is uncertain, but it was some time prior to the year 1639. One book states it definitely as being 1636. A legal paper drawn by his brother Robert in England in 1639 refers to his brother John as being in New England. He had thirteen children by his first wife and two by the second. With so large a family in the first American generation, it will be readily understood that the family branches soon became numerous. He is stated to have died July 11th, 1667, at the age of 58 years. From him are descended most of the New England Lawrence Families, and also many in other parts of the union.

Further reference will be made to this John Lawrence later.

(20)..Now, referring back to Item (6), and the notation, "Thomas will be referred to later", we have Thomas Lawrence, second son of Sir Robert and Margaret (Holden) Lawrence. He lived in Chelsea, in Shropshire.

(21)..Arthur Lawrence, son of the above ^{Thomas} Arthur Lawrence. was of Prior's court, Gloucestershire.

(22)..Sir John Lawrence, son of the above Arthur Lawrence. He was of Delaford, Bucks and Chelsea. He was created a baronet in 1628. He married Grisel Gibbon, and died in 1638.

(23)..Sir John Lawrence of Chelsea, son of Sir John and Grisel.

(24)..Sir Thomas Lawrence of the last named Sir John of Chelsea. It is said he was married, but had no issue. He was the last of this baronetcy. This Sir Thomas Lawrence spent all his estate, and emigrated to Maryland (America) about the year 1696. "He spend was made Secretary of Maryland in 1696, and in 1712 died there. (see page 169 of the book entitled "Founders' of Maryland."

Referring back to Item (6), the statement was made "Edmund will be referred to later." The following data regarding his decedents appears in "Rolls" Publications, Domestic State Papers;" and "Colonial Families of the United States of America. Volume 7, by Nelson Osgood Rhodes.

(25).. Edmund Lawrence, forth son of Sir Robert and Margaret (Item 6) had two sons; Richard and John (de Wordboys).

(26).. John Lawrence, called "Generous", son of the last named Richard. John died in 1538. He had children, Emma, Agnes, William and John.

(27)...John Lawrence of St. Albans, son of the last named John. This John of St. Albans was Mayor of St. Albans in 1567 and 1575.

(28).. William Lawrence, son of John of St. Albans; married Katerin Beaumont, November 25th 1559; had three children; John, Elizabeth and Thomas.

(29).. Thomas Lawrence, son of William and Katerin; baptized February 2nd 1588, died March 20th 1624. Listed as Chief Burgess of St. Albans. He is claimed by some to have married a Mary Townley, but this cannot be proven; in fact, we are certain he did not, unless he had a first wife of that name of whom no record is left. We do know that on October 23rd, 1609 he married Joan Anterbus, daughter of Walter and Jane Anterbus. Thomas and Joan (Anterbus) Lawrence had the following children: Joan, Jane, John, William, Marie(Mary) and Thomas. After the death of Thomas Lawrence, his widow Joan married John Tuttell (or Tuthill). Tuthill was a widower, and had four children; Abigail, Symon, Sara and John. John Tuthill was a Mercer.

John and Joan Tuthill, with all four of his children, and with three of hers, John, William and Marie(Thomas seems to have come later), were listed on April 2nd 1635, as sailing for America on the ship "Planter" Nicholas Trarice, Master, and which landed at Plymouth, Mass., some weeks later. This family came from Great St. Albans, England.

There will be further reference to this item later.

(30)..Referring back to the item 13, and the notation to the effect that William will be considered later:--This William Lawrence removed to St. Ives. As his first wife he married Frances Houston, and second Margaret Kaye. He died December 20th 1572, leaving three sons; Henry, William and Robert. He will only consider Henry.

(31)..Henry Lawrence, son of William and Frances, married Elizabeth Hagar of Bourne Castle. He died February 25th 1581, leaving two sons, Sir John and William. Sir John only will be considered.

(32)..Sir John Lawrence, son of Henry and Elizabeth, married Elizabeth Waller. He was Knighted at Windsor Castle in 1603. He died February 10th 1694, leaving two sons; Henry (later known as Lord Henry) and John.

(33).. Lord Henry Lawrence, son of John and Elizabeth, married Amy, the daughter of Sir Edward Peyton. Lord Henry Lawrence was a very distinguished man. A more extended notice is given him under the heading "Celebrities." He died August 8th 1664, leaving a large family of children.

(34).. John Lawrence, brother of Lord Henry, died in 1670, leaving a son Thomas Lawrence, a distinguished physician, of whom it was said that "He was physician to five crowned heads."

Drake's book, "Founders of New England," states that in 1635 there embarked from England, in the ship "Planter," Nicholas Travice, Captain, bound for New England, John Lawrence, Aged 17, William Lawrence, aged 12, and Mary Lawrence, Aged 9. These Lawrence children, the book further stated, were in company with John Tuttell and Joan Tuttell, and four Tuttell children. Nothing is said in this instance of the other boy, Thomas. However, another account names John, William and Thomas, and says nothing about Mary. These passengers and others, had a certificate from the minister at Great St. Albans, Hertfordshire. The above is confirmed in the "Genealogical Dictionary of the First Settlers of New England," by James Savage. It is also confirmed in the book, "American Genealogy," by Jerome B. Holgate; in which it is also stated that this Lawrence family has a pedigree of seven hundred years from the first Sir Robert Lawrence of Ashton Hall. The ship "Planter" was the same ship on which Gov. John Winthrop, Jr., came to America, he having been appointed governor of territory later embraced in the State of Connecticut. It is a significant fact to note that Henry Lawrence, afterwards known as Lord Henry, and cousin of these Lawrence boys, was one of the patentees of land in America that commissioned John Winthrop, Jr., Governor over the territory. Other patentees were; Lord Say, Lord Seal, Lord Brook, Sir Arthur Hesselrigg, Richard Saltonstall, George Fenwick and Henry Darby. It is a historical fact that the above individuals, including Henry Lawrence, intended coming over to America with Governor Winthrop, but were prevented from doing so by an edict of King Charles I. The young Lawrences did come over as the records show on the same ship with Governor Winthrop. It looks probably that they were influenced in coming by the intention of their older Cousin Henry to come, but in which he was prevented by the order of the King. We must remember that at this time most of the people who were coming to New England, and many others like Henry Lawrence who wished to come, were influenced by religious purposes. They were among the Puritans who had broken away from the established Church of England, and were being persecuted for it. It would have been better for King Charles, perhaps, if he had allowed Henry Lawrence and other prominent Puritans to leave England when they wanted to. As it was, Henry Lawrence became a prominent figure later in the Puritan rebellion, which resulted in the deposing and beheading of King Charles. Further reference to this will be made later.

CELEBRITIES (English)

Before finally changing the scene from England to America, it may be in place to mention briefly certain celebrated members of the Family in England, all of whom are referred to in the records as belonging to the Lancashire Lawrence Family.

Sir Robert Lawrence, the hero of the Battle of Acre in the Third Crusade in Palestine, was, for this service, knighted by King Richard I. His particular act of heroism and service was that he was the first to scale the wall of Acre and plant the Crusaders' Banner thereon. This was on July 12th 1191. As already stated, Sir Robert was also given Ashton Hall and a Coat-of Arms; "Argent, a Cross Reguly, Gules."

Sir James Lawrence married Eleanor, daughter of Lionel, Lord Welles. Her brother married Cecelia, daughter of King Edward IV. James Usher in his book on the Lawrence family remarks that this fact would indicate that "this family of Lawrence may fairly be ranked among the higher gentry."

Sir John Lawrence commanded a wing of the English Army under Lord Surrey at the famous Battle of Flodden Field, September 9th 1513.

John Lawrence, D. D., was Archdeacon of Worcester, Etc.

John Lawrence (another one) was Rector of Seven Hampton.

William Lawrence fought under the Lancashire banner at St. Albans, in the War of the Roses, in 1455; where he fell and is buried in the Abbey of St. Albans.

John Lawrence was an Abbot in Ramsey, Huntingdonshire, for about forty years. He is buried in the Abbey of Ramsey. He was very active in promoting the dissolution of monasteries then existing and for this zeal the King rewarded him with titles, grants and pensions.

William Lawrence, born in 1614, was distinguished for his knowledge of municipal law. Under Cromwell he was made Judge for Scotland. Later he returned to England and practiced law.

Lord Henry Lawrence -- to whom reference has already been made -- was about four years old when his father died. He was educated in Emmanuel College, Cambridge. He was a Puritan, and like many others, lived for awhile in Holland during the persecution. He married Amy, daughter of Sir Edward Peyton of Cambridgeshire. He was twice a member of Parliament from Hertfordshire; and also represented other districts. He was a very active supporter of Oliver Cromwell; is said to have been Cromwell's second cousin. The Lawrence mansion at St. Ives was occupied by Cromwell from 1631 to 1636. When King Charles was deposed and a government set up by Oliver Cromwell, Henry Lawrence in 1654 became the President of Cromwell's Council. In 1657 he was gazetted as a member of the House of Lords. He died August 8th 1664. He had seven sons and six daughters. He is buried in St. Margaret's Chapel Hertfordshire. His tomb bears the family coat-of-arms, already referred to. An account of him, together with his picture, is given in Clarendon's "History of the Rebellion." John Milton refers to him as "Aman of learning and worth, to rank with Montagne and others of the distinguished men of his time. A man of Noble qualities, a Republican and a Puritan."

Thomas Lawrence, M. D., died in 1714. He is referred to as having been "Physician to five crowned heads."

Sir Souldon Lawrence, son of Dr. Thomas Lawrence, was a Justice of the Common Pleas.

Giles Lawrence, September 18th 1564, became Archdeacon of Wilts.

George Lawrence, noted as a "Violent Puritan," was born in 1615. He preached in London and other places. Was author of various religious books. Preached the sermon on the death of Oliver Cromwell, from the text "A good Prince bewailed by a good people."

Thomas Lawrence became a scholar of Baliol College, Oxford, in 1614, at the age of 16 years. In after years became Minister of High Education. He was Chaplain to the Earl of Pembroke, and Chaplain in Ordinary to King Charles I, and later became Master of Baliol College.

THE WASHINGTON FAMILY.

There is an interesting side line in connection with the Lawrence Family History in England, but it has no bearing on the genealogy. It is only given here as a matter of interest.

The Lawrence Pedigree, as published by H. G. Somerby, shows that James Lawrence of Ashton Hall, married Matilda, the daughter of John de Washington. This is more particularly referred to in the "Genealogical Memoir of the Family of John Lawrence of Watertown," on page 6, where it is stated: - "James Lawrence married Matilda de Washington, daughter of John de Washington, in 1252. (See also Item (3) "English Pedigree." It should be stated here that the ancestral name of the Washington Family was De Wessynton, the family being of Norman descent. Later it appears as De Washington, and still later the "de" is dropped. Following the marriage of James Lawrence and Matilda Washington, the Washington Family must have thought will of "Uncle James Lawrence," for "Lawrence" became a popular given name in the Washington Family. Mr. Henry F. Waters, A.M., formerly a prominent member of the New England Historical and Genealogical Society, has probably gone into the genealogy of the Washington Family more thoroughly than anyone else. A pamphlet written by Mr. Waters, and entitled, "An Examination of the English Ancestry of George Washington," was published by the above Society in 1889. This pamphlet contains the Washington Genealogy, in which the name Lawrence appears as the given name of members of the Washington Family, no less than nine times in as many different generations. The last one named is the favorite brother of George Washington. This brother, Lawrence Washington, had very much to do with the shaping of the life and character of the Great Father of our Country, and from him he inherited the Washington Estate, Mount Vernon.

Another reference to this is found in the bound volumes of the Maryland Historical Magazine. In Volume 2, page 294, among other references to the matter it states: # "The name Lawrence occurs as a baptismal name in several generations of the Washington Family. Lawrence is a very old name with the Washingtons in England, and one of the immigrant ancestors of the family in Virginia was Lawrence Washington. There is evidence, however, that it was derived from the ancient and honorable Lawrence Family of England, through intermarriage with the Washingtons."

"THE ESTATE."

I presume this sketch would not be complete without some notice being taken of the so-called Lawrence-Townley Estate.

There have been many statements published about it, but usually they have been about in this form:-

The Townley ancestors of Lancashire, England, owned vast estates, which descended through several generations to Richard Townley, of Townley Hall, who married Mary, the daughter of Lord Widrington. They had two sons, and also two daughters, Dorothy and Mary. This Mary Townlet is claimed to have married John Lawrence, (some accounts say Joseph Lawrence.) Dorothy Townley, the sister, married Sir Francis Howard, afterwards Lord Effingham, who owned vast estates in Corby, including Corby Castle. This John Lawrence (or Joseph Lawrence, whichever it was), and his wife, Mary Townley Lawrence, emigrated to America. Lord Effingham died without issue; and his wife, Dorothy, became sole heir to his estate. She died later, leaving everything she had to her sister, Mary Townley Lawrence, in America or to her heirs. Also by a failure of the male line of Richard Townley, his two sons dying young and without heirs, the Townley estate also reverted to Mary Townley Lawrence, or her heirs. The value of these estates was variously reported up to as high as five hundred million dollars.

To attempt to review here all the variations to this story and the stories arising out of it, as well as to give an account of the controversies and investigations that resulted, would fill a book: would be of no value, and could be of no more than passing interest.

ENGLAND TO AMERICA.

Various Immigrations.

There was more than one early immigration of Lawrences to America from England; In fact, several are more or less definitely known. It should also be stated here that a large number of Lawrence families in America are not of English ancestry at all. There are many of Irish, French, German and other ancestry, whose names originally had a different spelling. For instance, in the Revolutionary War Records, we find a John Lawrence, who became one of General Washington's most trusted officers; and who was designated by him to receive the sword of Lord Cornwallis on the surrender of the British Army at Yorktown. This man's name appears in the records sometimes as Lawrence and at other times as Laurens, Laurens is correct and he is of French descent.

Mention will be made at this time of these various immigrations from England to America, so far as the writer is able to do so, from records that have come under his notice. The ones of lesser interest to our immediate family will be referred to first.

The records show that a sea captain by the name of John Lawrence, whose home was originally in the Island of Jersey, was married in Boston in 1713. This is the earliest date we have for him. One of his sons, John, removed to Connecticut and settled at Hartford. He became a man of importance, and was Treasurer of Connecticut during at least a part of the Revolutionary War period. Whether or not this family originally belonged to the Lancashire Lawrence Family is not known.

The name of George Lawrence appears on the town records of Watertown, Mass., as early as July 29th, 1657, where his marriage is recorded. On succeeding pages the births of his children are recorded. He died in 1708. He had nine children. He may have been born in this Country, and come from one of the other lines, or he may have come direct from England. He has a large number of descendants throughout the Country. I do not know that there has been any claim on the part of this family to descent from the Lancashire family of England.

The name of Thomas Lawrence appears in the town records of Hingham, Mass., in 1637, as a land holder for that year. The records further show that in 1638 he became "The lawful owner of four hundred acres of land, bounded westward with Cedar Swamp, and easterly with the land of Thomas Clap, etc." He is also referred to in 1647 in connection with land. He married Elizabeth Bates of Dorchester. Efforts have been made to connect this Thomas Lawrence of Hingham by relationship with John Lawrence of Watertown, Mass., (mentioned next), who came from Wisset, England, about 1636. The writer has found no records which will bear this out, although it would seem altogether possible.

JOHN LAWRENCE, of WATERTOWN, MASS.

There is a quite definite record regarding John Lawrence, who came from Wisset, England, and settled first at Watertown, Mass., and later at Groton. Reference has already been made to him in this account; see Item (19) in the English pedigree. As there stated, he came over some time prior to 1639, but is known to have been in New England at that date. By his first wife, Elizabeth, he had thirteen children; and two children by his second wife Susannah. He died July 11th 1667. He has many descendants, especially in the New England States. The Lawrences of Charleston and Lexington, Mass., were descended from him. There are several printed genealogies of this branch of the family.

One of the descendants, known as Deacon Samuel Lawrence, owing to his having served so many years as Deacon in the Church; was one of those who rallied at Concord to oppose the progress of the British troops April 19th 1775. At the time the news reached Groton, that the British were on the march, Deacon Samuel was working in the field. He mounted his horse and rode through the adjoining towns giving the alarm, returning in time to join his company. He was also in the battle of Bunker Hill and received a slight wound. He continued his services to the close of the War, was promoted to Major, and fought in some of the hardest battles. His hat and coat, pierced by bullets, was preserved among his descendants for many years.

Others of this branch of the family, of whom particular notice may be taken, are as follows:-

Rev. Micah Lawrence, who graduated from Harvard College at the age of 21 years, and is referred to as being Pastor of the Church of Christ at Winchester, N. H., in 1764. He was also a writer on religious subjects.

The man listed in the records of those killed in the Battle of Bunker Hill, "John Lawrence of Littleton," is claimed as a member of this family.

Another is James Lawrence, Jr., 1st Lieutenant, 8th Company of Col. Eleazer Brooks' regiment of Middlesex Militia in 1776.

Lieut. Benjamin Lawrence, "A soldier of the Revolution."

Capt. Thomas Lawrence, said to have been a man of extraordinary size, was frequently in Militia service, especially against the Indians, and was killed by them near Lake George in 1758.

Thomas Lawrence, a son of the Capt. Thomas Lawrence just referred to, was only a year old when his father was killed by the Indians. When but 18 years of age he enlisted in the Continental Army, and was wounded at the battle of Bunker Hill.

Rev. William Lawrence, graduated from Harvard College in 1743, was the first minister of the Church at Lincoln, Mass., and continued there for thirty-one years.

Nehemiah Lawrence was a Groton Minute Man, and a sargent in Capt. Farwell's Company in Col. William Prescott's regiment.

A Large number of this branch of the family are recorded as being exceedingly religious folks. This would naturally be expected from New England in the Colonial days.

JOHN, WILLIAM AND THOMAS LAWRENCE of LONG ISLAND.

Referring to Item (29) in the English Genealogy, we will now take up John, William and Thomas Lawrence, the three brothers who came from Great St. Albans, Hertfordshire, England. The Genealogy of these three brothers is found in "American Genealogy," by Jerome B. Holgate, and in "Historical Genealogy of the Lawrence Family," by Thomas Lawrence. There are other books also in which at least a part of it may be found; as, for instance, the "History of Long Island," by E. F. Thompson.

While this family is referred to as the Long Island Lawrences, it should be remembered that they, with the others on board the Ship Planter, landed at Plymouth, Mass., in 1635. From there they removed to Ipswich, and in a comparatively short time we find them on Long Island. New York, then known as New Amsterdam, Long Island and the vicinity, were then occupied by Dutch Settlers, and were under the control of Holland. However, many English settlers, like these Lawrences, mixed in with the Dutch settlers. You may read in history how later the English predominated, and New Amsterdam and vicinity became the English Colony of New York. In these developments and changes the Lawrences took a very active part.

We will consider these three brothers separately, in the order in which reference to them has already been made; John, William and Thomas, being the order of their ages.

JOHN LAWRENCE of Long Island.

John Lawrence, the oldest of the three brothers, who came over from Great St. Albans, was born in 1618, and was 17 years old when he came to America in 1635.

In the year 1644, at the age of 26 years, he became one of the Patentees of Hempstead on Long Island. The following year he, with his brother William, and sixteen others, obtained the Patent of Flushing, LI.

In the year 1658 John Lawrence removed from Long Island to New York (at that time known as New Amsterdam.) When the first English Governor came to New York, John Lawrence was appointed one of the first Aldermen, and in 1672 he became the Mayor of New York. After being again on the Council, he in 1691 became Mayor the second time, and Judge of the New York Supreme Court in 1692, in which office he remained until his death which occurred in 1699.

He had three sons and three daughters. One of the sons died unmarried. The other two married, but left no male descendants. There are, therefore, no descendants of this John Lawrence by the name of Lawrence.

WILLIAM LAWRENCE of LONG ISLAND.

William Lawrence was the second of the three brothers (John, William and Thomas,) born at Great St. Albans, Hertfordshire, England, who came to America in the Ship Planter in 1635. In 1645, at the age of 22, he was associated with his brother John, as one of the Patentees of Flushing, LI., in which town he resided during the remainder of his life. He became the largest landed proprietor at Flushing. In later life he was known as Capt. William Lawrence, as he was given a military commission by the English Governor for services rendered. He with his brothers became mixed up in the activities which resulted in the overthrow of the Dutch Government in New York and the establishment of the English Government instead. They also found themselves at times more or less involved in the strife and controversy between rival English governors. In the archives at Albany, N. Y., may be found on file the correspondence between William Lawrence and Peter Stuyvesant the Dutch Governor at New Amsterdam. This was, of course, before it became the English colony of New York. Lawrence's letters are ably written, giving the impression of a man of ability and decision of character. He died in 1680. His sword, plate and personals alone were valued at 4,430 pounds sterling, (as per inventory of his estate on file in the Serrogate's Office, New York City, recorded in 1680, Volume 22, page 29,) William Lawrence was twice married. By his first wife (of whose first name we find no record), he had two sons, namely William and John. By his second wife (Elizabeth Smith) of whom I will write more presently, he had five boys and two girls. His second wife, who was apparently somewhat younger than he was survived him. It is important that special notice be given to her, because of the Townley Family connection.

She was, before her marriage, Elizabeth Smith, daughter of Col. Richard Smith, Patentee of Smithtown, Long Island. About a year following the death of William Lawrence, she married as her second husband Sir Phillip Carterett, Governor of the Province of New Jersey, and of course removed there from Long Island. With her she took her seven children by her first husband, William Lawrence. Before she married Sir Phillip, she reserved to herself, by a legal instrument, the right of disposing of the lands and other property of her first husband among such of her children by him as she desired. This legal instrument is on file. Being a woman of great capabilities, she was entrusted with the affairs of the Colony during the absence of her husband in Europe. In the title to some of the acts of that time it is recorded that they were "Passed under the administration of Lady Elizabeth Carterett." Sir Phillip founded Elizabethtown in New Jersey, naming it for her. Sir Phillip died in 1682, leaving all his American possessions, which were extensive in New Jersey, to his widow Elizabeth, and appointed her sole executrix. Later, Elizabeth Smith-Lawrence-Carterett, married as her third husband Col. Richard Townley, the eighth son of Nicholas Townley, of Littleton, about twelve miles from London, England. This Col. Richard Townley came over to America in the suite of Lord Effingham Howard, who had been appointed Governor of the Colony of Virginia, in 1683. Col. Townley, however, settled at Elizabethtown, New Jersey. One account states that Col. Richard Townley was a woodpew at the time he married Elizabeth-Smith Lawrence Carterett; that he had a daughter, Mary Townley, who married Richard Lawrence, the oldest son of William and Elizabeth. Another account is found in Holgate's "Genealogy of Distinguished Families," and other places, which runs like this:-

JOSEPH LAWRENCE, eldest son of the first William Lawrence and Elizabeth (Smith) Lawrence, his second wife, afterwards Lady Carterett, married Mary, daughter of Sir Richard Townley, son of Charles Townley who fell at the Battle of Marston Moor. At the Restoration he was under the necessity of selling a very valuable estate at Necton, in Leicester, in consequence of losses sustained by Sequestration. His daughter Dorothy, the younger sister of Mary, married Francis Howard of Corby, afterwards Baron Howard of Effingham; and who, on the 8th of December 1731, was created first Earl of Effingham. He died in 1743. The aforesaid Joseph Lawrence was intimate with the above named Lord Effingham, who had married his wife's sister, and who commanded a British Frigate, at that time anchored in the offing, opposite his mansion, which he frequently visited. His grandson was named Effingham Lawrence, in compliment to the said Earl. Joseph Lawrence died in 1758.

There you have two stories, either one of which might easily account for the Townley and Effingham names in the Lawrence family, for we find them used at various times as given names, following the time above referred to, but not before. The question naturally arises as to which of the stories is the true one. The writer is of the opinion that a combination of the two stories, with certain modifications, is the real one. The main facts in both stories have been handed down in various branches of the family. That we may understand that we are not dealing altogether in legends, attention is called to the following facts.

The license for marriage granted to William Lawrence and Elizabeth Smith, of Flushing Long Island, is recorded in the office of the Secretary of State of New York, at Albany, in the Book of General Entries, Book No. 1, Page 98.

The letters of Administration to Elizabeth Lawrence, widow of William Lawrence, her certificate as guardian of the children, and other papers, are on file in the same office as the above.

The Wills of William Lawrence and his son Joseph Lawrence are on file in the Serrugate's Office in New York City, and with seals bearing the Lawrence Coat-of-Arms.

The marriage license of Sir Phillip Carterett and Elizabeth (Smith) Lawrence, is recorded in Albany, New York, under date of March 26th 1681, on page 89 in the Book of Orders, Warrants, etc.

The will of Sir Phillip Carterett, and other papers pertaining to him and his wife Elizabeth, are on file in the office of the Secretary of State, New Jersey. At the beginning of his will, he says:- "I give and bequeath my soul to Almighty God that gave it me, in full assurance that I shall be made partaker of eternal life by and through the merits of my most dear and blessed Redeemer Jesus Christ my Savior." He then bequeathed all his property in America to his wife Elizabeth and her heirs forever, including "All houses, buildings, lands, tenements, money, all goods and chattels, all negroes and other servants, excepting Black Jack, who I set free from servitude from and after the day of my burial." To his mother he bequeathed all his property in England. He closed his will with these words:- "It is my will that there shall be yearly forever paid out of my said estate in the Island of Jersey (England,) two quarters of wheat to the poor in the Parish of St. Peters."

The following may be especially mentioned among the descendents of William Lawrence:-

Richard Lawrence, a grandson of William Lawrence, married Hannah Bowne, daughter of Samuel Bowne, a minister among the Friends, or Quakers. At her grandfather's house, George Fox, the founder of the Quakers, had been entertained and had preached, especially under the famous Flushing Oak near by. The house was still standing in 1858. The Flushing Oak went down in a gale September 5th 1841, and the well-known poem "The Flushing Oak," was published about it at that time. Richard Lawrence himself became a member of the Society of Friends, or Quakers.

One Effingham Lawrence, went to England and became a merchant in London. Another Effingham Lawrence was a man of considerable wealth and influence in New York City.

John Lawrence, son of Joseph Lawrence, and grandson of William Lawrence, moved from Flushing, Long Island, to Elizabethtown, New Jersey, and was owner of a large tract of land, covering a large part of the present site of that city, and which he never conveyed away. It is said that on the coming of the British, the records were taken away or destroyed, but that the title to the tract of land still remains in the family. This John Lawrence removed to Newport, Rhode Island, and was an extensive ship-owner, engaged in the ocean shipping business. One of his vessels, built at Newport, he named the THREE BROTHERS, in honor of the three brothers, John, William and Thomas Lawrence, the original immigrants. This ship sailed on a European voyage, and was never heard from after it left port. The fact created a great deal of interest at the time, and for years afterwards. John Lawrence died in Providence, Rhode Island, and is buried there in the North Burial Ground.

David Lawrence, son of the John Lawrence last referred to, was successful in commerce. He is described as "A zealous and patriotic cooperator in our glorious Revolution, the intimate friend of Benjamin Franklin, and named one of his sons after the patriot Samuel Adams." After the Revolution he was one of the founders of the city of Hudson, New York. He was man of high artistic and literary tastes.

Samuel Adams Lawrence, son of the above named David Lawrence, was an extensive importer and commission merchant; was President and Director of a number of public institutions, both charitable and financial; noted for his works for charity and education. He was a conscientious and sincere Christian. He was a friend of the illustrious DeWitt Clinton.

THOMAS LAWRENCE of LONG ISLAND.

He is presumed to have been the youngest of the three brothers (John, William and Thomas) who came to America from Great St. Albans. He apparently did not come at the same time as his two older brothers, but very soon thereafter. It is not known just when he did come. The first definite date we have in connection with him is 1655, when the three brothers, with others, obtained possession of a tract of land on Long Island, known as Newtown. Thomas later bought the whole of what is known as Hell Gate Neck, Long Island, at that time comprising a number of valuable farms; and extending along the river from Hell Gate Cove to Bowery Bay.

He was known later as Major Thomas Lawrence, having received the commission for "the defense and protection of her Majesties subjects." His son John also had "command of a troop of horses," and another son was "Cornet," probably meaning Bugler.

The descendents of Thomas Lawrence, known as the Newtown branch of the family, are quite numerous in various parts of the Union. He died at Newtown, in July 1703, leaving five sons.

Among his descendents may be especially mentioned:-

Thomas, a grandson, Judge of the Court of Common Pleas for Burgen County, N. J., about 1714.

A great-grandson, Thomas, was a Lieutenant in the American Army during the Revolutionary War, and died June 16th 1803.

William, a great-great-grandson, served with the New York Volunteers in the War of 1812.

John Lawrence, a great-grandson, moved to New York City, and became one of the most well known merchants of his day. He married Catherine, the daughter of Hon. Phillip Livingston and sister of Gov. William Livingston of New Jersey. In politics in New York he served with dignity and steadiness as Alderman from the Cock Ward. He died August 9th 1764, and was buried in the family vault of the Earl of Sterling, in Trinity Church Yard, New York City. The writer has personally seen this tomb. It is interesting to know that the funeral services were conducted by the great Evangelist Whitefield, his long-time friend, who was in America at the time of his death.

Richard Lawrence, a younger brother of the John Lawrence just referred to, held a commission as Captain of Horse in the Militia of Queen's County, and as such commenced service in the Revolutionary War, although 50 years of age at the time. He was siezed by the Royalists and confined in New York. During his confinement he contracted an illness which terminated his life in 1781. While lying ill the news of the surrender of Cornwallis came to him, and he declared his readiness to die now that the ultimate triumph of his Country was assured.

William, a brother of the above John and Richard, was a Magistrate of Queen's County. He and his home were siezed by the British General Robertson, and the house was made his headquarters.

Another brother, Thomas Lawrence, was Captain of the Ship Tartan, and as such saw service in the French & Indian War.

Nathaniel Lawrence, a son of the last named Thomas, left Princeton College, and entered the regular army as a Lieutenant. In the midst of gallant service he was made prisoner by the enemy. In 1788 he was chosen from Queen's County to the New York State Convention which ratified the Constitution of the United States. Later he was Attorney General of his State. He died in 1796 at the early age of 35 years.

Another brother of the above John Lawrence, Samuel by name, is described as "a man of great probity and imperturbable courage, united with great goodness of heart." The loss of his wife and only child, and his confinement and bodily injury at the hands of the British during the Revolutionary War, left in him a life-long hostility to the British Government; so much so that he almost always included in his prayers a petition for its overthrow.

Another brother, Jonathan by name, was first employed by his brother John, the great New York merchant already referred to. Later he became a partner in the mercantile firm of Watson, Murray and Lawrence. He was so successful that he retired from business at the age of 34, and settled on Long Island, in one of the old Lawrence family homes there. Four years later came the Revolutionary War. He immediately became active. First, he became a leading member of the Committee in his home town (Newtown,). In 1775 he was member of the Provincial Congress that met in New York; and again in 1776. He was member of the convention which framed a Constitution for the State of New York, following the Declaration of Independence. He was already a Captain in the New York Militia, but in 1775 became a Brigade Major under General Nathaniel Woodhull. He escaped the sad fate of his commander, by having been sent to General Washington for further orders and reinforcements. In the meantime the British siezed his beautiful home. His family escaped in the night in a small boat over to New York. He served in various capacities, both civil and military, until the close of the war. Instead of a retired man of fortune, as he was at the beginning of the war, he now found himself a poor man, even his home having been stripped by the British. He was now 47 years of age and with a large family, but he again went into business in New York; and by the time of his death, September 4th 1812, he had again accumulated considerable wealth.

There is one more of these patriotic brothers to take notice of, namely, Col. Daniel Lawrence. He like Jonathan was exiled from his home by the British during the Revolutionary War. He was member of the New York General Assembly. He died in 1807, leaving numerous descendents.

Captain Jonathan Lawrence, a cousin of the seven Lawrence brothers above referred to, was a merchant in New York. He was one of the commission appointed to superintend the construction of Fort Washington. He was a Captain in the American Army during the Revolutionary War, and took part in the Battle of Monmouth.

A very extensive Genealogy of the three brothers John, William and Thomas Lawrence, may be found in "The Historical Genealogy of the Lawrence Family," by Thomas Lawrence of Providence, Rhode Island, and published in 1858.

LAWRENCES OF VIRGINIA.

When we look at the early history of Virginia, we find a Lawrence at an earlier date than any already mentioned.

In the list of names of "Adventurers for Virginia 1620," appears the name of William Lawrence. From his is probably descended very largely the Virginia Lawrences, although there were one or more later immigrations. The writer has not traced the Lawrences of Virginia to any great extent.

At the same time of the arrival of this William Lawrence, came also Sir Robert Payne, John Payne and William Payne. These men will be referred to again later.

Among the Lawrences of Virginia in the early days we find prominent men, and of course a goodly number of military men during the War of the Revolution. Among them are noted Col. John Lawrence and Capt. Mills Lawrence of Isle of Wight County; also John Lawrence in the Virginia General Assembly from 1786 to 1821.

Reference is made here to William Lawrence and the Paynes, to the "Genealogical History of Virginia," by Capt. John Smith (of Pocahontas fame), published in London in 1629 and reprinted in 1819. Also the "History of Virginia" by John Burke, published in 1804.

The following Lawrences (military men) in the Revolutionary War and Indian Wars are noted:- (From Virginia)

Henry Lawrence, in Capt. Stewart's Company, Lord Dunmore's War.
Gregory Lawrence, in 4th Virginia State Regular Continental Line.
Ishmael Lawrence, Virginia State Regular Continental Line.
James Lawrence, 14th Virginia Regiment.
John Lawrence, Sr., 10th and 14th Virginia Regiments.
John Lawrence, Jr., 10th and 14th Virginia Regiments.
John Lawrence, 5th, 11th and 15th Virginia Regiments.
Valentine Lawrence, A soldier from Monongalia County.
William Lawrence, 15th Virginia Regiment.
Capt. Mills Lawrence, soldier from Isle of Wight County.
Col. John Lawrence, soldier from Isle of Wight County.
James Lawrence, from Augusta County, under Col. John Buchanan.
Wm. Lawrence, ~~1777~~ 1777, 3rd Troop 1st Regular Light Dragoons, under
Col Theodoric Bland.
Jacob Lawrence, in Armand's Corps (entitled to land for services.)
Jacob Lawrence, 7th Virginia Regiment, Continental Line.
Thomas Lawrence, listed among August County Soldiers in the French
and Indian Wars.
Thomas Lawrence, 1758, Augusta County, under Col John Buchanan.
Thomas Lawrence, 2nd, 10th and 14th Virginia Regiments, Continental
Line during the Revolutionary War.

There may be duplications among the above; it is impossible for the writer to tell from the information given.

THE PAYNES OF VIRGINIA.

The Virginia Paynes were of English descent.

Sir Robert Payne purchased from the English Government a large tract of land in Virginia. On this land he located his two brothers, John and William, also coming over for a time himself. The three of them are named among the "Adventurers to Virginia in the year 1620." Later came also Thomas Payne, claimed to be another brother, on July 4th 1635.

See the book entitled "Virginia Genealogies," by H. E. Hayden, pages 60 and 654. Reference is also made to the "History of Virginia" by the famous Capt. John Smith of Pocahontas fame.

Sir Robert Payne later returned to England, but the brothers, John, William and Thomas, remained in Virginia.

This family had an important part in Virginia Colonial History. The following members of the family are particularly referred to as serving in the Revolutionary War, and receiving land grants for such service. There were doubtless others also, as the family was quite numerous by that time.

Lieut. Merriman Payne, in Virginia Navy from 1776 to 1783.

Capt. John Payne, also in Virginia Navy.

Lieut. Joseph Payne, in the Continental Army from Virginia.

Capt. Thomas Payne, in the Continental Line from Virginia.

Capt. Tarlton Payne, in the Continental Line, 1st Virginia Regiment.

Capt. William Payne, in the Continental Line from Virginia.

Jonah Payne, in the Continental Line from Virginia.

Dolly Madison, wife of President James Madison, was of this famous Virginia Payne family. She was of the Paynes of Hanover County, Virginia. Dorothy (or Dolly) Payne was the daughter of John Payne. Her mother was Mary Coles, first Cousin of Patrick Henry. Dolly married a Todd, who died; and later as a widow became the wife of James Madison, who was later President of the United States. She was known through life as Dolly, and the name on her tomb is Dolly; but was baptized Corothy. She was a grand-daughter of the John Payne who married Anne Fleming. See H. E. Hayden's "Virginia Genealogies," Page 256.

This sketch of the Virginia Payne Family is given because of the fact that Rachel Anne Payne, wife of John Lawrence, the first of the family in what is now Coshocton County, Ohio, was of this famous Virginia Payne Family. Her father lived at Warm Springs and about nine miles from the famous Hot Springs, in what is now Bath County, Virginia.

MARYLAND LAWRENCES.

Referring back to English Genealogy, Item (24), Sir Thomas Lawrence, who was made Secretary of the Colony of Maryland, this took place in the year 1691.

Thomas Copley was the first Royal Governor of Maryland, and Sir Thomas Lawrence was its first Royal Secretary. That means, they were the first Governor and Secretary appointed by the King. A great many references to Sir Thomas appear in a number of histories and other records.

About the same time, or a little earlier than Sir Thomas, there appears in Maryland a Benjamin Lawrence. He is claimed to have been a brother of Sir Thomas. Sir Thomas is believed to have had no children. The descendants of Benjamin Lawrence are, however, quite numerous. Some of them were people of great worth in the Colonial History of Maryland; civic, religious and military. They appear in Ann Arundel County, but later spread westward into Howard, Washington and Frederick Counties.

In Revolutionary War days we find, among others, four brothers in this family, noted for their patriotism.

Benjamin Lawrence, who lived on the estate known as the "Delaware Hundred." His descendants removed to Kentucky.

Capt. Levin Lawrence, Jr., who lived on the estate known as "Dorsey's Grove." He was 1st Lieut. in the Elk Ridge Battalion under Col Weems. ; but later we find him a Captain in the outfit known as the Flying Camp, because of their rapid movements.

Major Richard Lawrence, whose home and estate was known as "White Hall." He was in Col. James Wells' Battalion.

Capt. John Lawrence of "Linganore." Also his son Col. John Lawrence of Linganore.

This family is quite extensively featured in the "History of Ann Arundel and Howard Counties," by J. D. Warfield, a former Governor of Maryland; and in the "History of the Cumming Family" of Maryland. More or less mention appears in other books.

In the "Maryland Historical Magazine," Volume 6, page 264, we read that on August 13th 1641, Leonard Galvery, Esq., demanded 6,000 acres of land for transporting 15 able men into the Province of Maryland in the year 1633. Among the 15 able men was Richard Bradley, whom we are interested in, as the Bradley Family became a great one in Maryland and elsewhere; and became connected with the Lawrence Family, as we shall see later.

December 20th 1649 Richard Lawrence assigned his interest in 100 acres of land, due him for coming into the Province of Maryland seven years previously (namely, in 1642) -- the expression used is, "For transporting himself into the Province." This land was located on the north side of the Potomac River. It was assigned to John Cage. See Volume 8, page 58, of the Maryland Historical Magazine. This Richard Lawrence is the ancestor of a sturdy and active family.

In the set of books entitled "The Archives of Maryland" this family is referred to at various times as living principally in Kent County, Maryland.

MARYLAND LAWRENCES (Continued)

Under date of November, 1678, reference is made to Joh, Phillip, and James Lawrence, among others, as being reimbursed for losses suffered in an expedition against the Nanticoke Indians.

In 1681, William Lawrence was made "Captain of Foot in Kent County." Thereafter he is referred to as Capt. William Lawrence.

In November 1683, William Lawrence was made a Commissionery of Kent County.

There are various references to the appointment and reappointment of Capt. William Lawrence as a Justice of the Peace for Kent County.

Under date of November 28th 1689, William Lawrence and Henry Lawrence appear as signers to a Protestant Petition addressed to King William and Queen Mary for the protection of Protestants in the Province of Maryland. Asking for "Aid and protection as Protestants against the Papists; and to enable us to defend ourselves against the invaders."

October 10th 1691, Henry Lawrence was made Court Cryer.

It is evident from the record that this Lawrence Family spread from Kent County over to Somerset and St. Mary's Counties, and probably into Baltimore County and other Counties.

In the year 1790 the first United States Government Census was taken. This shows 20 Lawrence Families listed in Maryland, in nine different Counties, and totaling 121 people. However, this Census was acknowledged to have been far from complete. Several Counties are missing from it completely.

Following are Maryland Soldiers in the Revolutionary War, by the name of Lawrence, to which the writer has found one or more references. There may be some duplications; it is difficult in all cases to tell.

John Lawrence, in Capt. David Moore's Company, Frederick County.
 John Lawrence, in Capt. Joseph Chapline's Company.
 Capt. Lawrence - Maryland man wounded at the battle of Germantown.
 Richard Lawrence, acting Adjutant and afterwards Major in Col James Wells B. Levin Lawrence, 1st Lieut. and later Capt. in 6th Md. Regiment, "Flying Camp".
 Adam Lawrence, enlisted July 17th 1776 under Captl Isaac Perkins.
 James Lawrence, Private in 5th Maryland Regiment.
 William Lawrence, Corporal in 5th Maryland Regiment (Invalided).
 David Lawrence, Corporal in 5th Md. Regiment (missing).
 James Lawrence, in Capt. John Dean's Company.
 John Lawrence, in Capt. John Dames's Company.
 John Lawrence, in 5th Maryland Regiment (died in service).
 Peter Lawrence, Mattross in 1st Maryland Artillery under Capt. Wm. Brown.
 Joshus Lawrence, Sargeant in 1st Maryland Regiment.
 Benjamin Lawrence, (Regiment or Company not stated).
 Capt. John Lawrence, Sr., of Frederick Co. (Regiment not stated).
 Col. John Lawrence, Junior, of Frederick Co. " " "

CONNECTION.

Having before us the Lawrence immigrations to America: -

John Lawrence from Wisset, England, to Massachusetts.

John, William and Thomas Lawrence, the three brothers, from St. Albans, England, to Massachusetts and then to Long Island.

To Maryland, Sir Thomas Lawrence and Benjamin Lawrence, also Richard Lawrence to Kent County.

To Virginia, William Lawrence.

All as outlined above. The question naturally arises as to what of these branches of the family, if any, the Lawrences of Linton Township, Coshocton County, Ohio, and allied families, belong. This is the problem that the compiler of this sketch had to face.

It is quite common knowledge in the family that the immigration to Ohio was from Maryland. Some have thought Virginia, but that will be explained later.

The writer will not prove himself tiresome by relating the details of the many clues sought and traced, the large amount of correspondence carried on, books traced up and read, and records of various kinds consulted.

The Benjamin Lawrence family first came under notice. A search into this family history, however, failed to show any connection with Ohio. This was also true of the Richard Lawrence family of Kent County. Also these families did not trace back into New Jersey; and there are those living who are confident our Linton Township Family did trace through Maryland, back into New Jersey; and, of course, from there to Long Island, in other words, that the family would be found to descend from John, William and Thomas Lawrence, of Long Island, through New Jersey into Maryland, and from there to Ohio. The male line of John Lawrence ceased early. The descendants of Thomas Lawrence were, for the most part, inclined to remain around New York and Long Island. It is on record, however, that the descendants of William Lawrence, of Long Island, of whom there were a great number, did go into New Jersey, as we have already related. It is also on record that they spread into the surrounding states.

Among the Maryland Lawrences we are still searching for the particular line that came from Elizabethtown, New Jersey, and vicinity.

It is on record that the Maryland Lawrences in the early days used the same coat-of-arms as used by Capt. William Lawrence of Long Island and appended to his Will and other papers as already referred to. This is the coat-of-arms of the Lancashire (England) Lawrences.

If further definite information of the Maryland connection is

TO OHIO

One has but to read the Lawrence Family history to discover that many of its members have had the venturesome spirit of the Pioneer, as well as the courageous spirit of the Patriot. We have seen from this sketch that there have been several distinct early immigrations, of as many different branches of the family from England to America. Many members of the second and third, and later, generations, did not remain on the Atlantic Coast, but removed westerly into the more thinly settled districts. The writer might here relate, rather imperfectly perhaps, stories he was told, or overheard, when he was a boy; and the statement was made that they were printed in a book. The location of the book referred to would certainly be interesting. We shall continue to search for it.

Many of the Maryland and Virginia folks began moving westward; and especially casting longing eyes over into the wild and undeveloped, but very promising, Ohio country. Then there began to be periodic migrations of families and groups of families over into Ohio. These journeys were slow and laborious, and often dangerous; over the Allegheny mountains, through swamps and forests, and over rivers without bridges. They took what they could of their earthly possessions, arriving after many days of weary travel in all kinds of weather. When they arrived it was to find no pot of gold at the end of the rainbow. Instead they found hardship; hard work, often times disease, an unfriendly country, Indians, forests to clear, and a new land to conquer.

In the course of time there came to be a fixed highway from Maryland and Virginia, to the great Northwest Territory, as it came to be known; and out of which was later carved five States; of which Ohio, 1803, was the first. This highway we today know as the Old National Road; coming up through Old Cumberland, Maryland, and crossing the Ohio River at Wheeling (at first known as Fort Henry.) Back and forth along this route military expeditions, and bands of Indians, had traveled and fought. Later came the settlers. First, men without families; but later families also. By the year 1800 there came to be a regular stream of people over this route, with their faces set towards the setting sun. They traveled on horseback, in carts, in wagons and on foot. If they had possessions of any consequence these would be loaded on carts or wagons. In these days of railroad trains, motor vehicles and airplanes, it is difficult for us to visualize the picture I have drawn above.

In the year 1802, on this Old National Road, and headed towards the Ohio Country, there could have been seen a little group in which we of the Lawrence Family are mightily interested. This group was made of John Lawrence, his wife Rachel Lawrence, their one year old son Thomas Lawrence, and John Lawrence's sister Charity Lawrence. All young folks, John Lawrence himself being but 23 years of age; having been born in Maryland in 1779. Their possessions were loaded in a card, drawn by a mule. People of poverty, do you say? Not considering the day in which they lived. They were from hard-working, but well to do families. Rachel Lawrence's father owned a farm at Warm Springs, Virginia, which extended for a mile along the main road. John Lawrence had several hundred dollars of good American money, in a day when actual cash was scarce. In both Maryland and

TO OHIO (Continued)

Virginia many families knew nothing about the handling of actual cash, tobacco being used pretty largely as the medium of exchange. In the case of these folks, almost no money would be needed for their journey. Their food came from the fields and the forests about them as they traveled. Not many changes of raiment would be required, and they had their loom and spinning wheel. When they arrived at their destination, land would doubtless be free for the settling at first, and later could be bought very cheaply.

Sounds romantic and easy, does it? Well don't forget the hardships and the hard work. And yet they were happy, for they had love and hope, and a future of promise lay before them.

But they did not go directly to Ohio. Arriving in Virginia (what is now West Virginia,) they came to that great obstacle, the Ohio River. Perhaps they had not intended at first to go over into Ohio. At any rate, we find them stopping in what was called the Colony of Pittsylvania. This has nothing to do with Pittsylvania County, Virginia, located in the southern part of the State. The Colony of Pittsylvania was located at the mouth of the Great Kanawha River, in what is now known as Mason County. Just how long they remained in this Colony of Pittsylvania in Virginia, we may never know for certain. The writer feels quite confident that their residence here lasted perhaps two or three years, before they journeyed on into what is now Linton Township, Coshocton, County, Ohio, but which at first was a part of Tuscarawas County.

Arriving, they settled on a piece of land in what was later known as the Osborne Neighborhood, between the present towns of Linton Mills and Plainfield. There they built their first log house. After being there for some months, or perhaps a couple of years, they learned they had located on land that had previously been homesteaded by John Heslip, of Baltimore, Maryland; with the idea of getting his son Joseph Heslip, (remembered as Josie Heslip), to settle on it. Later on Joseph Heslip came to Ohio, and for some time lived with the Lawrences. Meanwhile, John Lawrence had taken up land about a mile above where Linton Mills now stands, in the Phillips Neighborhood, afterwards known as the Stringtown Neighborhood." Here another log house was built. Later additions were made to it of frame construction. This was the house and location occupied by the Lawrence family until about the latter part of the year 1881. Later the property passed out of the family, and the house has since been destroyed by fire.

About two years after their arrival in the Ohio country, John Payne, a brother (in fact, the only brother) of Rachel Payne Lawrence, came from Virginia and lived with them, being unmarried. When the War of 1812 came, John Payne went into the army to fight for his Country. He was never heard from afterwards, and there is no known record as to his fate.

In the meantime, three more children had been born to John and Rachel Lawrence, namely; Jacob, Rebecca and Ann. Ann was born at the beginning of the War of 1812, and the mother's life was despaired of; but she finally recovered to live to the ripe old age of 102 years. In later years six more children came to the family; they were:- John Andrew (given full name to distinguish him from his father), Fanny, Margaret, Mary, Belinda and Spencer, in the order named. This made ten in all. However, Thomas, the first born, died at the age of seventeen years.

OHIO.

As previously stated, when coming to Ohio, John Lawrence settled in what is now Linton Township, Coshocton County. It was a part of Tuscarawas County at that time, as Coshocton County had not yet been established.

The southern, or southeast, corner of Linton Township was Military Land. It was a 4,000 acre section, and was surveyed into 40 lots of 100 acres each. Some of them were taken up by non-residents of the County and held for speculation. Amos Stackhouse was the only Revolutionary Soldier known to have entered a lot in this section; he settled on Lot 14. John Lawrence was one of the first settlers on this section. Later, on August 3rd 1816, he bought 100 acres from Z. A. Beatty. On October 3rd 1828 he bought the east half of Lot 13 from Wm. Miskimins. Then on April 30th, 1835, he was deeded Lot No. 3 (100 acres) of this Military Land by the United States Government. The deed is signed by President Andrew Jackson, and is recorded in Volume 12, Page 10, of Coshocton County Deed Records.

Thomas Johnson was the first Justice of the Peace in Linton Township. His first docket, still preserved in the family, bears date of April 7th, 1814. The first entry of that date records a suit brought by John Lawrence against Jacob Maple to recover ten dollars. Ten Dollars meant more in those days than one hundred dollars would today.

John Lawrence, Thomas and George Phillips, and others, built the little school house at the forks of the road, and afterwards known as Carr's School, which has been attended by members of our family for four generations.

One who remembers Great-Grandfather John Lawrence, while still living, said this to me:-

"He never boasted of anything he ever did: only of his independence of everyone, especially his own people. He taught his family honesty, truth and uprightness; and that they could not live without God, as some tried to do. He did not visit, unless in sickness; but many a poor man got a ham, a side of bacon, a sack of flour or corn. But he had to be a worthy man, trying to keep his family as best he could, - no lazy one ever got anything from him. He was a great reader; had his Bible by heart; never talked about anyone; and was never very intimate with one more than another, only in business. Don't think he had an enemy."

It is also remembered that he was "Very proud of his English Ancestry."

Others have spoken about what a striking figure he was on horseback - and how he used to come down the Wills Creek Valley on his great White horse; sitting straight as an arrow, even when around eighty years of age.

(1). Thomas died when seventeen years of age.

(3). Rebecca married a Ganson, and it is believed they later moved to Illinois.

(5). John Andrew, married Ellen Israel of Zanesville, who is understood to have been a descendent of John Israel of Baltimore, Maryland. They had twelve (12) children, who will be named later.

(6). Fanny married a man named Frye. It is believed they later removed to Texas.

(8). Mary married William Neill. It is quite certain that in later years they removed to Texas.

(9). Belinda married a man by the name of Currie, and they made their home in Indiana.

(10). Spencer married a Johnson and they remained in Ohio, and have descendents.

(1). - William Van Buren

(2). - Julia Angelina

(3). - Robert Spencer

(4). - John Bradley

(5). - Rebecca Ellen

(6). - Franklin (died when about 18 months old)

(7).- Rachel Eldora)) Twins

(8).- Loren (?), (lived only about 24 hours)

(9).- Milton Clinton) Twins

(10)- Byron Dryden)

(11)- Sylvanus Lyman) Twine

(12)- Alice Viola)

It is the thought of the writer that each member of the family, into whose hands this comes, may pick out his or her immediate ancestor, and carry the data forward for that particular branch of the family.

N O T E

In getting up this data, it has been by aim to include nothing of importance that I did not have some authority for.

While I have put a very great amount of Study on it, yet I realize that there may still be errors in it.

I would like it fully understood that any suggestion any mamber of the family wishes to make, will be gladly received. If any any error in the information can be pointedout, or if any additional information can be furnished by any one, I will be glad to receive it.

It will be my constant study to obtain more full information, especially regarding the Maryland connections; and when any such information is obtained and verified to my satisfaction, it will be written up and passed on to all who have this sketch.

I trust the time may come when it may be printed in book or pamphlet form, after it is more complete of course. It would be my purpose then to file a copy of it in the Genealogical Department of the Congressional Library at Washington, D. C.

D. W. Lawrence,

1817 East 31st Street

Lorain, Ohio

March 24th 1929.

Notes.

It will be noted that a break exists in the line of descent in Delaware, which so far it has been impossible to bridge over. Several professional genealogists have attempted it, but without success. I have also worked on it myself. The reason may be and probably is, that the family while in Delaware did not own any property (real estate); If they had, the problem would not be so difficult.

Great - grandfather John Lawrence, by his own statement, was born in Delaware in 1779. His father's name is believed to have been Thomas Lawrence. We have found two or three Thomas Lawrence's there, but we cannot prove the identity; that is, which is which. This Thomas Lawrence (that is, the one we are interested in) married Margaret Bradley. John Lawrence, their son, our great grandfather, met and married Rachael Anne Payne. And so we have - Thomas (?) Lawrence, born (?) - in the Colony of Delaware - married Margaret Bradley.

Their children :-

John Lawrence, born in Delaware in 1779; married Rachael Ann Payne. Charity Lawrence, and (we are told) Joseph Lawrence.

John Lawrence, wife Rachael, and his sister Charity came to Ohio. Children of John and Rachael are listed in the foregoing data. Among them, John Andrew Lawrence, your grandfather. Among his children, your father, Sylvanus Lawrence.

HECKMAN
BINDERY INC.



JAN 94

Bound -To -Please® N. MANCHESTER,
INDIANA 46962

